

(REVISED)
TOP SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

11 September 1952

ITEM 3

Briefings on Research in the Social Sciences of Use to
Psychological Strategy Board Planning and Operations
(No paper)

Summary: Departmental representatives will brief the board:

Mr. Kirkpatrick, State; Mr. Price, Defense; and Mr. Becker, CIA. The discussion is to be based on the following four criteria: (a) Requirements; (b) Agency problems with respect to research; (c) Inter-departmental coordination; and (d) Utilization of the research product.

Reference may be made to the original investigation of the research problem by [REDACTED]. (Attached) It is the staff's understanding that [REDACTED] was to submit recommendations with a view to: (a) insuring proper coordination of research activities in support of psychological warfare; (b) eliminating duplication; (c) assigning new research requirements; and (d) insuring full use of research by Government departments and agencies. The [REDACTED] investigation departed from a limited study concerned with psychological warfare and extended itself to a consideration of the whole field of social science research, much of which has only an indirect relation to psychological warfare.

The staff believes that Government units responsible for planning and conducting psychological warfare in peace or war should determine their research needs and the extent to which these needs are being met. On this basis, the element of central coordination can be introduced. Such coordination would serve to: (a) reduce duplication; (b) point up gaps where additional research is required; (c) insure full Government utilization of the research product; and (d) familiarize agencies engaged in research of the special needs of psychological warfare agencies.

Recommendation: That you recommend to the Board that the Agency act as a central point of coordination for research, in much the same manner as intelligence is now centralized.

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